

# REMEMBERING VICTIMS OF NEW YORK'S DERAILMENT ON METRO-NORTH

(Mr. ENGEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, this horrific tragedy, unfortunately, happened in my district about half a mile from where I live.

When a tragedy like this happens, senseless tragedy, we as Americans all pull together wherever tragedies occur. That is what we are doing here this afternoon. We are pulling together in the face of a terrible, terrible tragedy.

I know that an investigation is going on from the National Transportation Safety Board. I hope that in a short time we will know what happened and, perhaps, we will be able to take steps to ensure that it doesn't happen again, whether it be by legislation or other types of ways we can ensure that this doesn't happen again.

My heart goes out to all the victims and their families of this senseless, senseless tragedy. We as New Yorkers and as Americans in times of tragedy always pull together. New York pulled together after 9/11, and we are pulling together after this horrific tragedy as well.

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(Mr. CROWLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I too rise to mourn the loss of these four individuals and all those who were injured in this tragic accident.

In particular, I want to recognize the family of Kisook Ahn of Queens. The entire Korean American community in Queens and throughout the city and the tristate region mourn her loss. She was a resident of my hometown of Woodside, Queens. I particularly want to express our sorrow on her loss and all those who lost their lives or were injured, once again, in this tragic event of Sunday. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and all the victims and their families.

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(Mr. RANGEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, let me thank Congressman ENGEL for the compassion which he has demonstrated for the families of those that survived, those that are injured, and those that have been lost.

While all of us are anxious to see the results of the investigation, we all have

to ask ourselves, could this be avoided and did these people die in vain, and what are we going to do about it?

It would appear to me that the first thing everyone thinks of is the infrastructure: Could this have happened in Japan, in China, or in some other industrialized country? It just stresses how important infrastructure is.

It is not just the question of looking modern and developing commerce. It is human lives we are talking about. Let's not let the people who died die in vain. Let us all collectively look at our bridges, our roads, our tunnels, and our airports all over our great Nation so that we can avoid these types of tragedies.

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# REMEMBERING VICTIMS OF NEW YORK'S DERAILMENT ON METRO-NORTH

(Mr. GIBSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues for coming forward with these moving tributes. I want to add to those my condolences, and those of my family.

This is a very resilient Nation, and New Yorkers in tough times like these, we come together. Every day I have thousands of my constituents who ride these trains back and forth to provide for their families. I pledge my support and those of our district as we ensure that a tragedy like this is not repeated.

# AFFORDABLE CARE ACT IS UNAFFORDABLE

(Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, some are trying to create the impression that the only problem with ObamaCare is the Web site, and the experts will soon fix that. Actually, the biggest problem with the so-called Affordable Care Act is that it is unaffordable.

We are already having trouble paying for all of the Federal medical programs we have now. The cost of all of our Federal medical programs have been greatly underestimated at the start.

Now with many millions more losing their coverage than the administration predicted, added to the millions previously uninsured, the cost of ObamaCare is already estimated at possibly four times more than when it was passed, and it is not even fully in place.

Since it took 3½ years to even get a screwed-up Web site partially ready, most people don't believe the Federal Government can run our health care system efficiently in the first place. More bureaucratic, less-humane medical care, and all at much greater cost

to taxpayers at both the Federal and State levels.

This plan is a mess that will ultimately lead to shortages, waiting periods, and a great decline in the quality of American medical care.

# SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

(Mr. CARTWRIGHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, for far too long, Congress has failed to act while the impacts of climate change threaten our security, our economy, our budget, and the health of our citizens. In fact, the GAO included climate change in its high-risk report this year—meaning the GAO thinks it is critical for the Federal Government to address the financial threat posed by climate change. Whether we are talking about the Federal flood insurance program, whether we are talking about FEMA payments, climate change undeniably threatens our finances as a Nation and as a Federal Government.

We have to put our partisanship aside and deal with the financial effects of climate change.

That's why in the coming months, I intend to release a comprehensive climate adaptation bill that will address the need to protect our Nation's assets and our citizens from the devastation that is now inevitable due to our already changing climate.

Mr. Speaker, the time has come for congressional action for our own good and the good of our children and our grandchildren.

# GUN SAFETY LEGISLATION

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I hold in my hand simple, one-page legislation, H.R. 3626, that passed on the floor of the House today by voice vote. Mr. Speaker, it was a gun bill. It was to extend and to ensure that undetectable firearms would be regulated so that plastic guns cannot pose a danger to law enforcement or the police.

Mr. Speaker, I wonder why we cannot come together to stop the kinds of killings at Sandy Hook and Aurora by passing universal background checks, or the bill that I introduced, which is a gun safety and storage bill. For the likes of a young man by the name of Braveon who died in the hands of strangers in my district 2 weeks ago, or the young man, 16 years old, who just was shot this past weekend in a local park, or two teenagers that died 3 or 4 weeks ago while 19 were shot at a house party, all using guns got on the underbelly of life. Not stopping stash houses, or keeping guns from going from one hand to another without a background check.